

Serial No. 09/965,893
Amendment and Response to Office Action
Mailed: 8 September 2006

Remarks / Arguments

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1 – 8 and 11 – 35. By this paper, the Applicant has responded to the rejections. Claims: 1 – 8 and 11 – 35 are now pending. There are no amendments to the Claims. In view of the following remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1 – 3, 7, 12 – 15, 17 – 18, 22 – 25, 27 – 28, and 32 – 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being unpatentable over Ip, 2003/0046339.

Applicant has submitted a 37 CFR 1.131 affidavit to document conception and reduction to practice prior to the filing date of Ip's application no. 2003/0046339. With the request for the removal of the Ip application as prior art, applicant respectfully request examiner remove this rejection.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 4 – 6, 8, 11, 16, 19 – 21, 26, 29 – 31, and 35 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Ip in view of Smith, 6,792,515.

Applicant has submitted a 37 CFR 1.131 affidavit to document conception and reduction to practice prior to the filing date of Ip's application no. 2003/0046339. With the request for the removal of the Ip application as prior art, applicant respectfully request examiner remove this rejection.

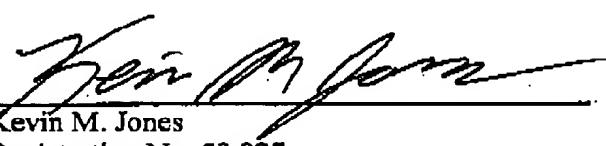
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Conclusion

The Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. However, if the Examiner wishes to resolve any other issues by way of a telephone conference, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2 January 2007



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